

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB 02/03557

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|---|---|--|
| A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G01B3/10 B29C45/16 | | |
| According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC | | |
| B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 G01B B29C | | |
| Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched | | |
| Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ | | |
| C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | |
| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
| X A | US 3 415 461 A (CHARLES ZELNICK) 10 December 1968 (1968-12-10) column 2, line 21-36; figure 2 | 1,3,5,7, 13-15,17 2,4,6, 8-12,16 |
| X | US 3 437 281 A (QUENOT ANDRE) 8 April 1969 (1969-04-08) column 2, line 18-57; figures 4-6 | 1,5,7, 13,14,17 |
| X | US 3 114 515 A (KANE NEIL G) 17 December 1963 (1963-12-17) column 2, line 69 -column 3, line 4 | 1,13,14, 17 |
| X | US 3 443 316 A (EDGEALL JAMES E) 13 May 1969 (1969-05-13) column 3, line 52 -column 4, line 69; figures 1,12 | 13,14,17 |
| --- -/-- | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex. | | |
| * Special categories of cited documents : <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>*E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>*L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>*Z* document member of the same patent family</p> </div> </div> | | |
| Date of the actual completion of the international search <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">19 November 2002</div> | | Date of mailing of the international search report <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">27/11/2002</div> |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 | | Authorized officer <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Beyfuß, M</div> |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int nal Application No
PCT/GB 02/03557

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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| X | US 4 443 944 A (BEESLEY PHILLIP G) 24 April 1984 (1984-04-24) column 2, line 33 -column 3, line 60; figures 1-3 ----- | 13-17 |
| X | US 6 182 916 B1 (LIN HENRY) 6 February 2001 (2001-02-06) | 18, 19, 21 |
| Y | column 2, line 31-52; figure 2 ----- | 20 |
| X | US 1 465 067 A (TOTHILL WILLIAM S) 14 August 1923 (1923-08-14) page 2, line 11-41; figures 1-3 ----- | 18, 19, 21 |
| Y | US 5 137 248 A (SATO TOSHIYUKI ET AL) 11 August 1992 (1992-08-11) | 20 |
| A | column 1, line 22-25 column 3, line 1-56 ----- | 22, 23 |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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